



In This Issue

- Coding for Infusions

Quick Links

[Maxim Health Information Services](#)

[Career Opportunities for Coders](#)

[Submit Your HIM/Revenue Cycle Need](#)

[Ask a Coding Question](#)

About Maxim Health Information Services

Maxim Health Information Services (MHIS) provides superior quality [coding and auditing services](#) to healthcare organizations across the country. MHIS offers on-site coding support, remote coding services, auditing and review services, education and training, HIM outsourcing solutions, and services to the Department of Veterans Affairs' Medical Centers. MHIS provides

Welcome to the June issue of Maxim Coding CornerSM! As a leader in the HIM industry, [Maxim Health Information Services](#) is committed to providing you with coding-related topics that matter to you. This month, we are focusing on coding for infusions. Read on below to learn more and be sure to look for information at the end of this article about our new [Ask a Coding Question](#) feature!

Coding for Infusions

Infusion codes are divided into three separate categories: (1) Hydration; (2) Therapeutic, Prophylactic, and Diagnostic Injection and Infusion; and (3) Chemotherapy and Other Highly Complex Drug or Highly Complex Biologic Agent Administration.

Hydration is intended to be used when hydration infusion consisting of pre-packaged fluid and electrolytes is performed.

Therapeutic, prophylactic, and diagnostic injections and infusions are for the administration of drugs/substances excluding chemotherapy and other highly complex drugs or highly complex biologic agents.

Administration of Chemotherapy and Other Highly Complex Drugs or Highly Complex Biologic Agents refers to parenteral administration of non-radionuclide anti-neoplastic drugs and anti-neoplastic agents provided for treatment of noncancer diagnoses or to substances such as certain monoclonal antibody agents and other biologic response modifiers.

When coding for injections and infusions, first determine which of the three categories are being performed during the infusion. When more than one category is being performed, determine which category will be the primary category. Appropriate determination of the primary category will depend on whether the coding is being performed for a facility or for a physician. When coding for a physician, determine what the key or primary reason is for the encounter and when coding for a facility, determine the primary category by hierarchy.

Determining the primary category determines which initial infusion code to assign. Typically, only one initial infusion code per day

qualified healthcare professionals to customers to meet their needs in an efficient and cost-effective manner. MHIS has some of the best [career opportunities](#) in the industry, with positions including on-site coding, remote coding, travel coding, auditing, and more.

may be assigned. However, subsequent initial infusion codes may be assigned if two separate IVs were performed simultaneously or if the patient had more than one infusion during the day and left the facility between infusions. The following are the initial codes for infusion:

96360 Hydration IV up to 1 hour (Initial)
96374 IV Push 1st drug (Initial)
96365 IV Infusion Drug up to 1 hour (Initial)
96409 Chemo IV Push (Initial)
96413 Chemo IV Infusion 1st drug up to 1 hour (Initial)

Below are some additional tips for infusion coding:

- After assignment of the initial infusion code, appropriately assign other subsequent infusion codes.
- When fluids are used to administer drugs, the administration of the fluid is considered incidental and cannot be coded separately.
- When coding for infusions, the actual time over which the infusion is administered must be clearly documented. If more than one infusion service is performed, the time must be clearly documented for each service and not just an overall time.
- An IV push is considered either an IV infusion of 15 minutes or less or an injection in which the health care professional who administers the substance or drug is continuously present to administer the injection and observe the patient.
- When coding chemotherapy make sure to watch for infusions of other medications that do not fall under the chemotherapy infusion codes.

Past issues of Maxim Coding Corner are available online! Visit the [Coding Corner page](#) on our Website to download Coding Corner issues you may have missed.

References

CPT 2009 Professional Edition

CPT Assistant February 2009, Volume 19, Issue 2, page 17

Ask a Coding Question

Have a coding-related question that you would like to get answered by an MHIS coding expert? Visit our new ["Ask a Coding Question"](#) page to submit your question for review. If your question is selected as the **Coding Question of the Month**, a full answer will be posted on our website for you and all MHIS website visitors to reference!

To learn more about Maxim Health Information Services, visit us [online](#) or call 866-265-0589.



This [CoolerEmail](#) was delivered to you by Maxim Health Information Services. You can [take your email address off Maxim Health Information Services' email list](#), or [update your preferences and/or send comments to Maxim Health Information Services](#). If you request to be taken off Maxim Health Information Services' email list, Maxim Health Information Services will honor your request pursuant to [CoolerEmail's](#) permission-based email terms and conditions. Postal address: 23811 Chagrin Boulevard, Suite 210, Beachwood, OH 44124

Powered by [CoolerEmail](#)